

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 101754 TOSEC 110203

67

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:JHOGANSON

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:JHOGANSON

----- 015438

Z 272011Z APR 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101754 TOSEC 110203

FOLLOWING REPEAT ACCRA 3120 ACTION KINSHASA SECSTATE

DAKAR MONROVIA WHITE HOUSE DTD 27 APR

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3120

FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

WHITE HOUSE FOR GENERAL SCOWCRAFT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: ACCRA 3119

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL I WAS GIVEN APPOINTMENT TO SEE
COMMISSIONER FELLI AT 1600 TODAY (APRIL 27). WHEN I ARRIVED WITH
LINEHAN AND BAXTER, FELLI WAS NOT PRESENT AND I WAS RECEIVED BY SENIO
R

PRINCIPAL SECRETARY ERIC OTOO, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY HENRY SEKYI,
AMBASSADOR TO U.S. SAMUEL QUARM AND DIRECTOR GEORGE LAMPTEY.

2. IT WAS EVIDENT FROM BEGINNING THAT THIS WAS NOT TO BE MEETING TO
TIDY UP REMAINING DETAILS. WITH GREAT EFFORT OTOO SAID THAT HE MUST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 101754 TOSEC 110203

QUOTE WITH GREAT REGRET UNQUOTE INFORM ME THAT AT THE INSTRUCTIONS

OF THE HEAD OF STATE, VISIT OF SECRETARY QUOTE MUST BE CANCELLED UNQUOTE. OTOO INITIALLY OFFERED NO REASON BUT WHEN PRESSED HE MENTIONED ILLNESS OF ACHEAMPONG. (WE ARE AWARE THAT ACHEAMPONG HAS BEEN INDISPOSED FOR A FEW DAYS WITH AN INFECTIOUS BOIL.) HE WAS ASKED IF WE COULD TRANSMIT ANY DIAGNOSIS OR PROGNOSIS OF THE CHAIRMAN'S ILLNESS AND HE OFFERED NONE OTHER THAN TO SAY THAT HE, TOO #-\$ #3-4\$ 9* ?98). SEKYI ADDED WEAKLY THAT HE HAD HEARD CHAIRMAN HAND NOT BEEN IN OFFICE FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

3. I ASKED IF CANCELLATION WOULD ALSO APPLY TO VISIT OF YUGOSLAV PRIME MINISTER WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN MAY 7. OTOO SAID THAT THIS WAS STILL SOME TIME OFF AND THAT HE DID NOT NOW HAVE ANSWER TO THIS. IN THIS CONNECTION I ASKED WHAT THIS DID TO GHANA'S NON-ALIGNMENT POLICY, ALSO BEARING IN MIND, BUT NOT STATING, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIETS HERE OF WHICH BOTH WE AND MFA ARE AWARE. (WE HAVE LEARNED SINCE EARLIER TELEGRAM THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR BERNOV WAS RUMORED TO HAVE SEEN ACHEAMPONG YESTERDAY.)

4. I ASKED IF PRESS HAD YET BEEN TOLD AND HE SAID IT HAD NOT AND THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN A RELEASE WOULD BE MADE. I SAID THAT I WOULD BE REQUIRED, OF COURSE, TO INFORM THE SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY AND THAT IT WOULD BE LIKELY THAT NEWS WOULD APPEAR FROM KINSHASA SHORTLY. HE ASKED THAT WE DELAY AND I SAID THAT I SAW NO REASON TO DO SO AND WOULD NOT SO RECOMMEND TO THE SECRETARY.

5. OTOO MADE POINT STRONGLY THAT COMMISSIONER FELLI WAS DISTRESSED BY CANCELLATION AND IMPLIED (BUT ONLY IMPLIED) THAT HIS ABSENCE WAS A RESULT OF HIS MEETING ELSEWHERE, PRESUMABLY TO SEE IF SHOCK OF CANCELLATION COULD BE ABATED. IT WAS CLEARLY EVIDENT THAT OTOO AND THOSE WITH HIM WERE UNHAPPY AT DECISION AS THEY, SURELY MORE THAN ACHEAMPONG, UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE SUDDEN AND UNTIMELY CANCELLATION FOR US-GHANA RELATIONS AND FOR PROGRAMS WHICH ARE IMPORTANT TO GHANA.

6. I ADJOURNED MEETING QUICKLY TO LEAVE FOR CHANCERY. LAMPTEY AND QUARM FOLLOWED US OUT AND (ALMOST TEARFULLY) BEGGED THAT I TRY CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 101754 TOSEC 110203

TO SEE ACHEAMPONG THROUGH MEANS OF TELEPHONING AMBASSADOR DEBRAH (WHO IS SECRETARY TO SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL). I DEMURRED, SAYING THAT IF GOG HAD ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO CONVEY TO ME I WOULD BE AT MY OFFICE AND COULD BE CALLED. I DID AGREE TO HOLD MESSAGE TWENTY MINUTES WHILE MFA ATTEMPTED TO REACH DEBRAH. I HAVE SINCE BEEN INFORMED ACHEAMPONG IS TOO ILL TO SEE ME AT THIS TIME.

7. COMMENT: I FIND IT EXTRAORDINARILY DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT ACHEAMPONG'

S

ILLNESS AS REASON FOR CANCELLATION. SUCH ILLNESS MIGHT HAVE CANCELLED PART OF PROGRAM WHICH WAS TO HAVE INCLUDED ACHEAMPONG PERSONALLY BUT THERE IS NO CLEAR REASON FOR OTHER PORTIONS BEING CUT OUT. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT GHANA HAS KNUCKLED UNDER TO SOVIET AND STUDENT AND OTHER DOMESTIC CRITICISM AND PRESSURE TO KEEP KISSINGER OUT OF GHANA. ACEHAMPOG IS GIVEN TO SNAP DECISION OFTEN BASED ON HIS LAST CONVERSATION AND/OR ADVICE FROM SOOTHSAYERS.

8. ACTION RECOMMENDED: I BELIEVE THAT DEPARTMENT SHOULD ISSUE ORDERS IMMEDIATELY FOR MY TEMPORARY RECALL ON CONSULTATION IN THE FACE OF WHAT APPEARS TO US TO BE SHARP REBUFF. I FURTHER RECOMMEND THAT WE REVIEW CAREFULLY ANY NEW PROGRAMS WHICH ARE UNDER CONSIDERATION INCLUDING THE MIDAD AGRICULTURAL PROJECT. I WOULD EXPECT IN WASHINGTON TO HAVE FULL DISCUSSIONS ON THE CONDUCT OF OUR FUTURE RELATIONS WITH GHANA.

9. PRESS RECOMMENDATION: I SUGGEST THAT STATEMENT BE ISSUED BY SECRETARY'S PARTY SIMPLY INDICATING THAT WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE GOG THAT VISIT TO GHANA HAS BEEN CANCELLED.

10. I DEEPLY REGRET THIS EMBARRASSMENT TO YOU AND TO THE UNITED STATES.
BLACK UNQTE SISCO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE101754
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:JHOGANSON
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760159-1136
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760415/aaaaampn.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 ACCRA 3119
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANCELLATION OF SECRETARY'S VISIT
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006